

You may want to stay inside, lock your doors, and turn on exterior lights if it appears the activity is in your neighborhood. You may call police dispatch at (480) 644-2211 and inquire about the helicopter's activity in your area. Your call may be placed on hold while the operator is obtaining the information.

**I** have speeding cars on my neighborhood street. What can we do to slow them down?

The Speed Trailer is available to neighborhoods on a registration basis only. The trailer "clocks" the speed of the approaching vehicle and posts it for the driver to see. It is a visual warning device. To find out more about this program or to reserve the trailer, please call your local police substation.

**W**hat are the requirements to ride a motorized skateboard?

Arizona State Law categorizes motorized skateboards as vehicles. This means that the operators of such vehicles must obey all traffic laws and local ordinances.

Mesa City Code 10-1-18 explains the local ordinance in detail. Here is an overview of the city code.

- A minor shall carry at all times a notarized letter of written consent from a parent.
- No riding on sidewalks.
- No riding where posted greater than 30 mph.

- No riding between 8 pm and 7 am.
- No minor under age 14 may ride.
- No passengers allowed.
- Motorized skateboard shall yield right of way.

**Mesa Police Department**  
[www.mesaaz.gov/police](http://www.mesaaz.gov/police)



# NEIGHBORHOODS

## **Why does it take so long for an officer to respond when we call the police?**

Calls are prioritized according to the seriousness of the situation:

**Priority E** - Any life threatening call with great possibility of death or serious injury, or any confrontation between people which could threaten the life or safety of any person.

The call is entered into the computer within 30 seconds after location is learned. Call is dispatched within 30 seconds from the time call is entered to the closest available unit(s).

**Priority One** - Any crime in progress which might result in a threat to injury of a person, or major loss of property, or immediate apprehension of a suspect. It also includes accidents with injury or other traffic incidents that create a traffic hazard.

The call is entered within one minute from the time the location is determined. Call is dispatched within two minutes from the time call is entered.

**Priority Two** - Includes minor in-progress/just occurred calls where there is no threat of personal injury or major loss of property.

Delay in call dispatched not to exceed 30 minutes from time call is received.

**Priority Three** - Includes nuisance calls, civil standbys, and any incident which could be categorized as a delayed report where the reporting person is at a public location.

Up to one-hour dispatch time.

**Priority Four** - Calls include reports taken by Teleserve or our callback officers. Calls dispatched involve events where a delay will not prevent a crime from occurring, aid in an immediate apprehension of a suspect, or cause a delay in an injured person receiving aid.

Up to three-hour dispatch time.

**Priority Five** (Humane Calls) - Assigned to a Humane Officer to handle. A higher priority can be assigned to a humane call if deemed necessary. This can include vicious dog at large, livestock loose in the street, and injured animals.

## **Can I shoot someone if they are trying to break into my house, or do I wait until they get inside, then shoot?**

This is a very complicated subject. Use of force is generally illegal and is allowed only within very narrow limits. You should also realize that there are a number of other legal risks involved in your choice to use force.

**Deadly force** is force that is likely to cause death or serious physical injury; for example, use of a gun, knife, or baseball bat. **Non-deadly force** is anything less; for example, punching or shoving someone. There are four situations that the use of force against another person is "legally justified," and each has specific guidelines that must be met to avoid criminal liability:

- Self-defense
- Defense of another person
- Prevention of certain crimes
- Law enforcement

The decision to use deadly force is

particularly grave and should be weighed carefully, preferably before you decide to arm yourself.

## **If something is happening and I don't know if it is considered an emergency, will I get in trouble if I call 911?**

No. Actually all calls go to the same operators, but since they have fewer emergency lines they will ask you to hang up and call back on the non-emergency phone number (which they will give you) so the 911 line can be cleared immediately. If it is an emergency for another agency or area, they will take the information or transfer your call.

## **If I call and complain about a neighbor or someone on my street, do I have to give my name, address, and phone number (if I fear retaliation)?**

No. However it is helpful to have that information in case we need to re-contact you for additional information. If you want to actually file a complaint and have a report taken, you **do** have to give your personal information.

## **Why does the helicopter keep flying over my home or in my area when nothing is happening? Should I go out and motion them away because they have the wrong house?**

The police helicopter responds to calls by orbiting the scene of the call, causing it to fly over streets and houses that are not directly involved in the police activity. The spotlight can also illuminate areas not directly involved due to the width of the light beam. When looking for criminal activity or persons on the ground the light may shine on your home.